Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 AID-05 /054 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2176
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO CINCPAC
USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 5399

USIA FOR IEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TH

SUBJ: US SUPPLIES TO CAMBODIA

- 1. AFTERNOON ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY BANGKOK WORLD REPORTED PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT TOLD NEWSMEN TODAY "THAILAND HAS BEEN ASSURED BY US AUTHORITIES THAT NO WEAPONS ARE BEING TRANSPORTED FROM THAI SOIL TO CAMBODIA." FRONT-PAGE STORY CONTINUED: "THE US AUTHORITIES, AFTER INQUIRIES BY THAI AUTHORITIES, SAID THAT THERE WASN'T ANY DELIVERY OF WEAPONS FROM THAILAND TO CAMBODIA ANY LONGER, BUT THEY WERE DELIVERING FOOD SUPPLIES TO THAT COUNTRY ONLY." NO SUCH ASSURANCES WERE SOUGHT FROM OR MADE BY THIS EMBASSY.
- 2. IN ANOTHER REPORT, SAME EDITION BANGKOK WORLD SAID FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN DENIED THERE ARE WEAPONS ABOARD RTG-CONTROLLED EXPRESS TRANSPORT ORGANIZATION TRUCKS CROSSING FROM THAILAND TO CAMBODIA. TO NEWSMEN IN THAI-CONDUCTED PRESS CONFIDENTIAL

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VISIT AT UTAPAO RTNAB TO OBSERVE LON NOL TRANSIT THAILAND

TODAY ON WAY TO INDONESIA, CHATCHAI AGAIN DENIED ETO TRUCKS CARRY US WEAPONS. "IMPOSSIBLE. NOT TRUE," HE REPORTEDLY REPLIED TO QUERY WHETHER ETO TRUCK CONVOYS TO CAMBODIA LOADED WITH WEAPONS.

3. IF ASKED ABOUT THESE LATEST REMARKS BY KHUKRIT AND CHATCHAI, SPOKESMEN HERE REPLYING: "WE HAVE SEEN THE PRESS REPORT, BUT WE DO NOT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON IT." WE URGE US SPOKESMEN ELSEWHERE TO RESPOND SIMILARLY IF QUERIED. MASTERS

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